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THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

WAR IN OUR TIME

One thought is in all minds as these words are written, that of the horrible conflict taking place in Europe, involving, directly or indirectly, the well-being of all nations, such warfare as seemed a thing of the past, belonging to barbarism rather than to civilization. All must be anxiously asking themselves whether this great carnage was needed as an object lesson, and whether it will lead to a greater horror of war than has before been prevalent. Most of the rulers and fighting men of the nations involved are men in young or middle life, only a small percentage has known war at first hand; hereafter, those who survive will know it in its true colors, and they should be interested in the possibility of settling disputes by arbitration as never before. "Give peace in our time, O Lord," is the prayer in many hearts, yet we believe we have taken some steps in advance since that prayer was written, and most of us wish to pray not only for peace in our time, but for peace in all time, peace which is consistent with an honorable and humane method of settling the differences that must arise between countries so long as they are peopled by men, not angels.

THE LATEST WORD FROM THE RED CROSS

Since the earliest records that have come down to us, women have felt the obligations of war, as well as have men. The care of the sick and wounded naturally falls to them, and we read of women in high positions in foreign countries volunteering for Red Cross service. In this country only trained nurses are allowed to serve in this capacity and already our Red Cross Nursing Service is ready for the demand that may be made upon it. We asked Miss Delano for the latest word from the Red Cross before our pages closed and have from her a letter written in

the midst of pressing duties, but so full of interest that we are publishing it nearly in full, knowing how eager our nurses will be for just this news from headquarters.

With the pressure of work now overwhelming the office it is absolutely impossible for me to prepare any formal article for the Red Cross Department. I will, however, tell as nearly as possible the progress of events in Washington and will ask you to use it in any way that you desire.

I was called back to Washington for a meeting on August 5, of the International and War Relief Boards of the American Red Cross, held in the office of the Surgeon-General of the Army. It was decided at that meeting to offer units of twelve nurses and three physicians to all of the European nations now at war. Several committees were appointed at this meeting, one to consider the question of chartering a suitable vessel, of which Surgeon-General Braisted of the Navy is chairman; one on medical personnel; and another on nursing personnel, of which I am chairman. In order that the identity of the ship chartered might be certain, it was decided to have the ship painted white with a red band encircling the hull with red crosses painted on the smoke stacks, the ship of course flying Red Cross flags. Offers have been sent to all of the European nations in which a state of war exists and I have begun at once securing at least 120 enrolled Red Cross nurses. Not knowing how soon we should hear from the countries to whom we have offered nurses, it seemed desirable to secure as many nurses as possible from points easily accessible to New York, from which the ship will sail. Requests for nurses have been sent to the following local committees: Boston, Connecticut, Manhattan, Brooklyn, Albany, Buffalo, Rochester, Baltimore, New Jersey, Philadelphia, Cleveland, and Cincinnati.

There are numerous complications in selecting nurses for this particular service. It has been quite definitely decided that native born women should be selected on account of the difficulty in issuing pass-ports to any others. It is also most desirable that as many of the nurses as possible speak some European language and ordinarily this would mean the selection of foreign-born women. Physical examination, anti-typhoid treatment and vaccination for smallpox will of course be required.

We are busy preparing various supplies to be sent out with the personnel. We are having waterproof canvas bags made conspicuously marked with the Red Cross, and these will be used by physicians and nurses for all luggage not carried in their hands. It will be difficult to transport any quantity of luggage, and having the parcels uniform in style will minimize the danger of loss. Olive green blankets, also plainly marked with the Red Cross, will be supplied for use not only on the steamer but after arrival if needed. I have also requested the Red Cross to supply the uniforms without cost to the nurses. The blue crepe ordered from Japan for our permanent Red Cross uniforms will not reach this country in time, and I dislike very much asking the nurses to go to this unusual expense for anything adopted temporarily. The uniforms are being made in New York and will include blue-gray gingham dresses, white aprons of the special style adopted, soft turn-over collars, blue capes lined with red and decorated with the Red Cross on left front, with soft blue felt hats to match. Many of the ladies in Washington are assisting us in preparing little comforts and necessities for the group of nurses selected. Responses are coming in not only from the local committees notified, but many Red Cross nurses throughout the country are also volunteering.

Several countries have already asked for Red Cross assistance and about an hour ago a formal acceptance of the offer of the American Red Cross was received from the Russian Government. It is impossible to say at this time when the nurses will be sent, but we are making every effort to have them ready should the call come unexpectedly. It is quite probable that a second contingent of nurses will be sent over, for if the war continues on such a scale as present circumstances seem to indicate there will be great need of a large nursing personnel. I am sure that the nurses who have helped organize the present Nursing Service will be gratified to know that we have been consulted by various European countries both in regard to our system of organization and standards for our Nursing Service.

It was through the standing of our Red Cross Nursing Service that Miss Hay was selected to establish a training school in Sofia, Bulgaria, according to our American methods. Miss Hay was to have sailed from New York on August 4, but a cablegram from the Queen, received a day or two before the ship was to sail, asked that Miss Hay's departure be delayed on account of the difficulty in securing transportation through Servia. Miss Hay has therefore been selected as an employee of the Red Cross to take charge of the group of nurses sent out and is assisting local committees in the selection of these nurses. She will accompany the nurses to the various countries to which our groups are assigned, and will remain in Europe either in charge of one of the groups, or to maintain general supervision if this can be arranged.

I regret that I am unable to send you with this the names of the nurses selected to take charge of the various groups.

THE NAVY DEPARTMENT AND THE RED CROSS

Perhaps because of the fact that the Army Nurse Corps was established some little time in advance of the Navy Nurse Corps, the idea has become fixed in the minds of many nurses that the Red Cross is to act as an army reserve, and not as a navy reserve, in time of war or disaster. We want to emphasize the fact that the Red Cross Nursing Service is to act as a reserve for both the army and navy. In time of disturbance with any other power the navy is first to be called into action, as was shown in the recent trouble in Mexico and less recently in Cuba.

The Navy Nurse Corps is organized on practically the same lines as the Army Nurse Corps. At the time of the St. Louis meetings, Mrs. Higbee, superintendent of the Navy Nurse Corps, was held at her post for the same reason as that which kept Miss McIsaac, superintendent of the Army Nurse Corps, in Washington, and the period of waiting and suspense was quite as great in the nursing department of the navy as in that of the army.

Mrs. Higbee writes of the present situation:

Should the fleet of the United States navy become involved in the present European war and additional hospital ships be required to care for the sick of our navy, the Surgeon-General will recommend that nurses be assigned to these ships. This action, and the fact that our base hospitals may be filled with patients, will

necessitate an increase in the number of navy nurses and may require us to obtain nurses from the Red Cross, which is the national reserve. The United States is a neutral power, however, and there is little possibility that her navy will be involved in active combat.

No doubt you have been officially informed that assistance may be offered to the nations at war through the Red Cross. A number of navy nurses, who are members of the Red Cross, have requested that they may be assigned to that service for present active duty in foreign countries. In view of the fact that it is essential that our hospitals should not be depleted of their personnel, it is doubtful if the Surgeon-General will approve these requests.

The predominant belief of the navy authorities is that we shall better serve our country by remaining in a state of preparedness than by offering the assistance of our personnel, at present, to other countries.

OUR NURSES ABROAD

It had seemed to us, even before there was a possibility of war, that there had never been so many nurses abroad for the summer. Some of these are well known, many are not, for all we are most anxious. News of the safety of a few has reached us, and it is hoped that most have escaped from the danger zones. Of the JOURNAL's editorial staff, Miss Riddle and Miss Foley have been away. Miss Riddle has returned (also Miss Catton, who accompanied her), but Miss Foley, at her last writing, was in Keswick, England, and intended going to Germany. Miss Nutting, Miss Goodrich and Miss Nevins are in London, making the best of a bad situation. Miss Deans had fortunately returned to this country before trouble arose. Miss Samuel, of Cleveland, Miss Jones of Rochester, Miss Brink, of Bellevue, are, we suppose, still abroad, but we do not know of their whereabouts.

THE NIGHTINGALE MEMORIAL

With the plans for an educational memorial to Florence Nightingale by the nurses of the whole world developing so splendidly, it is most humiliating that the condition described by Miss Dock in this issue on another page should have arisen to retard the project. It is the same kind of petty selfishness that we find the world over, the personal desire to dominate coming before the larger humanitarian issues so as to obscure not only the tribute to Miss Nightingale but the educational benefit to the nurse of the future, which leads directly to the more efficient care of the sick both in the hospital and in the home.

If it were only possible to bring it about, we see in this situation a large opportunity for a tremendous coöperative project by combining the Nightingale Fund with the contributions from nurses of the world and others, whereby there could be established in London, not merely a department of nursing in an established college, but a separate college of nursing

where, from the foundation up, women could be prepared to enter the nursing field.

With the rush and strain of modern life no existing educational institution, either high school or college, gives, in a reasonable time and at a non-prohibitive cost, the most effective kind of preparation for students in this field. By a process of elimination and substitution we believe a course could be evolved which would give to the nurse of the future the culture and knowledge necessary to meet the increased demands of the profession.

In spite of what seems a hopeless situation we dare to believe that those interested will not permit such an opportunity to be lost but that all the forces at work for the establishment of this memorial will be directed toward one great educational memorial worthy of the woman to whom it is dedicated and of the spirit by which it is inspired.

NURSING JOURNALS AND THE WORK OF STATE REGISTRATON

It has long been recognized that in the east the work of state registration could not have been carried forward without the JOURNAL. Through the knowledge conveyed from one state to another of what was being accomplished, the statutes all over the country are practically the same, differing in detail according to local conditions. On the Pacific Coast, the *Pacific Coast Journal of Nursing* has done a wonderful work in developing the work of registration in California. From Miss Jamme, Director of the Bureau of Registration of Nurses, we learn that the period of waiver in the law of California closed on July 1. At that date there had been 4862 applications without examination. It is a remarkable fact that this large number responded during the nine months of the waiver and this may be attributed to the insistent activity of the county associations, alumnae associations, and the individual hospitals to get all eligible graduates registered under this clause. Large publicity was given in the papers throughout the state. The *Pacific Coast Journal of Nursing* and the Monthly Bulletin of the State Board of Health have proved a medium through which physicians and the public could be made aware of the existence of the law and the importance of each nurse being registered. The *Pacific Coast Journal of Nursing* carried with the registration news a list of the nurses as they were registered by the State Board of Health.

The importance and possibilities of nursing journals cannot be measured in their value to every individual nurse in carrying to her the important message of her profession. In every instance where a nurse did not know that she could avail herself of her privilege to register with-

out examination, the Bureau found she had not been in touch with any organization or nursing journal.

The coöperation of the hospitals in the work of the Bureau has been universal. The good will and spirit of interest and desire to have the schools accredited and as nearly as it is possible to bring them to uniform standing has been marked. California has a very large territory and a large rural population. Many hospitals in the rural communities are needed and afford a very excellent field for teaching, which can be strengthened by affiliation with a larger institution affording wider experience. It is the intention of the State Board of Health to assist these schools in establishing and maintaining the standards required, which will make them of value as vocational schools in the education of young women of the state. The Bureau is receiving very earnest coöperation in this work from the education department of the state and also the Civil Service Commission. There are many possibilities in this that may be worked out to the mutual good of all concerned.

Naturally there are difficulties but it has been the good fortune of the workers to have been very ably assisted in the interpretation of the law by the Attorney of the State Board of Health, who has given most valuable opinions as difficulties appeared. These opinions have been published in the *Pacific Coast Journal of Nursing* in order that the nurses could be in touch with the work of the Bureau.

THE SAN DIEGO EXPOSITION

One of our California readers calls our attention to the fact that the JOURNAL has not yet made mention of the exposition at San Diego as an attraction for visitors to our national and international meetings. In point of fact, those who wish to see California in miniature and who cannot take time to travel through the state, may find in the San Diego exposition all that they are seeking, for it is to be a living, growing, out-of-door exhibit in a special sense. There are to be groves of oranges, growing and being irrigated and gathered as the seasons pass, there are to be flocks of sheep and shearing, there is to be tree spraying, for the enthusiast in that line, there are to be trees, flowers, shrubs and birds from all the world, not in cages, but living out of doors. The exposition is to be open for an entire year, as San Diego's climate is one of the most equable in the world, and best of all, perhaps, there are to be no exorbitant hotel rates permitted. As San Diego itself is situated on a most beautiful bay, the surroundings will be all one could wish. It will be possible to include this smaller exposition in a trip to California without much additional expense, if any, but it should be planned for in advance so that tickets may be made out to include it.

JOURNAL SUBSCRIPTIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

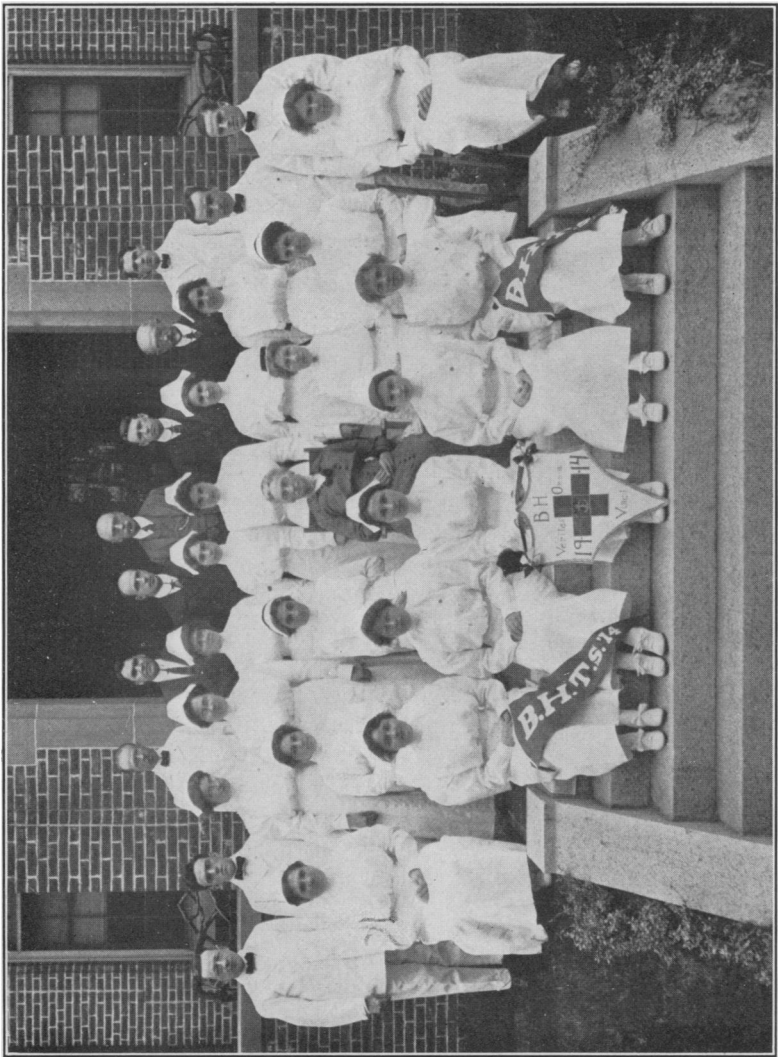
We wish to ask those of our readers who are especially interested in the welfare of the JOURNAL to kindly remember when sending subscriptions to state whether they are sending new subscriptions or renewals, and, if the latter, with which month they should begin. This will save much valuable time and materially lessen the cost of clerical service in the JOURNAL office. We also wish to remind our subscribers that the new volume commences with the October number and that renewals should be made promptly. We cannot guarantee unbroken files if an interval of several months is allowed to elapse between the time of expiration and that of renewal.

We wish to again emphasize the fact that cash sent in letters which are unregistered is at the sender's own risk. This may be done many times without mishap but accidents do occur. A number of such losses have been reported within a short time.

With this issue the JOURNAL closes its fourteenth volume. A year ago at this time its affairs were in great confusion, owing to the change of printer. We begin this new volume with the work in the Rochester office splendidly organized, with every promise of being able to give an efficient service during the coming year. We wish to thank those of our subscribers who have been the victims of this confusion for their patience and courtesy and we wish it were possible to make individual acknowledgment to all those nurses who have helped in the establishment and up-building of the JOURNAL.

Many of those who, for years, have worked steadily and faithfully in its interests are women wholly unknown to the nursing world at large though their names seem like those of personal friends to the editors at Rochester who have learned to know upon whom they can depend.

We should like to remind the officers of local and state associations that the best of the papers read at their meetings should be sent to the JOURNAL for possible publication. We always prefer papers on nursing subjects, written by nurses, rather than those on medical subjects written by doctors, as this is a nursing magazine. Articles written by physicians must be of scientific value to be acceptable. We do not publish fiction, poetry, formal obituary notices, or graduating addresses, with some rare exceptions, but practical helpful articles which will be of value to the nurse in her work are always welcomed and even though a nurse may not think herself a good writer, from a literary standpoint, if her paper has good workable ideas the wording can be revised in the editorial office. All original articles which have not been read or published elsewhere are paid for at the time of publication. Articles which have been read at



MISS LINDA RICHARDS AND THE CLASS OF 1914, BUTLER HOSPITAL, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

meetings are welcomed but are not paid for, though extra copies of the JOURNAL in which such an article appears will be sent to the author if she so desires.

There is no charge for the insertion of news items and those of interest to the nursing world are desired.

We wish to thank secretaries of associations who have so cordially responded to our request for a list of their members.

MISS RICHARDS AT A TRAINING SCHOOL GRADUATION

The old pupils of Miss Linda Richards, all over the world, will be interested in seeing the accompanying illustration which shows her surrounded by this year's graduates of the Butler Hospital Training School, Providence, Rhode Island, where she was a guest some little time ago and gave the address to the class. It has been very many years since Miss Richards' friends have seen a fresh likeness of her, and it is through the courtesy of Miss Cleland, once a pupil of Miss Richards, and now superintendent of nurses at Butler Hospital, that we are reproducing this one in the class group.

Miss Richards' address was on The Growth in Importance and Recognition of Training Schools in Mental Hospitals, in which she showed the evolution which has taken place in this important branch of nurse training and of the opposition which was encountered at the outset.

Miss Cleland voices the regret that every one must feel that more of the younger generation of nurses cannot come under Miss Richards' influence and feel "that wonderful sweet magnetism" which has been an inspiration to others for so many years.

A PERMANENT DEMONSTRATION

The New Jersey State Board of Examiners, whose curriculum we noticed some months ago, has now issued, in uniform size with the curriculum, a booklet entitled Illustrations of Modern Methods of Class Instruction, Treatment Trays, Box System for Supplies, etc. A preface explains that the object of the Board in issuing the book is to establish more uniform methods in the schools throughout the state. There follow 23 pages of photographs, with no text except the necessary explanation of the picture. The first picture shows a typical supply closet with its shelves filled with boxes and trays; the second shows a class supply closet; others elaborate the details of the various boxes and trays, showing also a model clothes closet, a solution stand and a dressing carriage. The last eight pages show a hospital doll in various postures, illustrating, as nearly as possible, the proper arrangements to be

made for administering various kinds of treatment. The whole booklet is not only unique, but most valuable, and other state boards may find it of advantage to copy the idea, which is not patented.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION COURSE IN PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

Too late for insertion in our letter department comes a request from the executive secretary of the National Organization for Public Health Nursing, Ella Phillips Crandall, as follows:

How many nurses will avail themselves of a University Extension Course in Public Health Nursing if it were to be offered, the theoretical portion of which can be pursued while the nurse continues her regular occupation and the practical portion arranged for under the direction of some near-by visiting nurse association of recognized standing, during which latter period she will receive half-pay? The probable cost will be fifty dollars.

Replies may be sent directly to Miss Crandall whose address is always to be found in the Official Directory at the end of each copy of the JOURNAL.

A San Francisco paper, commenting on The War and the Exposition, says:

It goes without saying that the war in Europe, particularly if it shall be long sustained, must have important effects in relation to our exposition. First and most obviously it will put limitations upon European exhibitors. None of the countries involved in war are likely to invest much money or energy in what may be regarded as a holiday enterprise far from the home base. The war, too, will give to ocean fleets other than our own abundant occupation elsewhere. But a comprehensive and beautiful exposition may still be furnished forth by what is surely pledged and by what may be supplied by our own country and adjacent countries in the Pacific Ocean. The best of every fair, be it great or small, is that which is provided by the art and industry of the country in which it is held.

Nor can we expect, if the war shall last long, any great attendance of Europeans. They will have neither the means nor the disposition to go gallivanting about the world. On the other hand, the war in Europe is likely to divert to California multitudes who in the ordinary course of their journeyings would go elsewhere. The "summer trip" is in this country a fixed institution and a habit. Its larger objective is Europe. With the gates of Europe shut it will look elsewhere. Many thousands who under normal conditions would never have thought of making the trip across the continent will surely come to us in 1915. On the whole we think it reasonable to hope that our losses will be offset by our gains under the limitations and effects of the war.